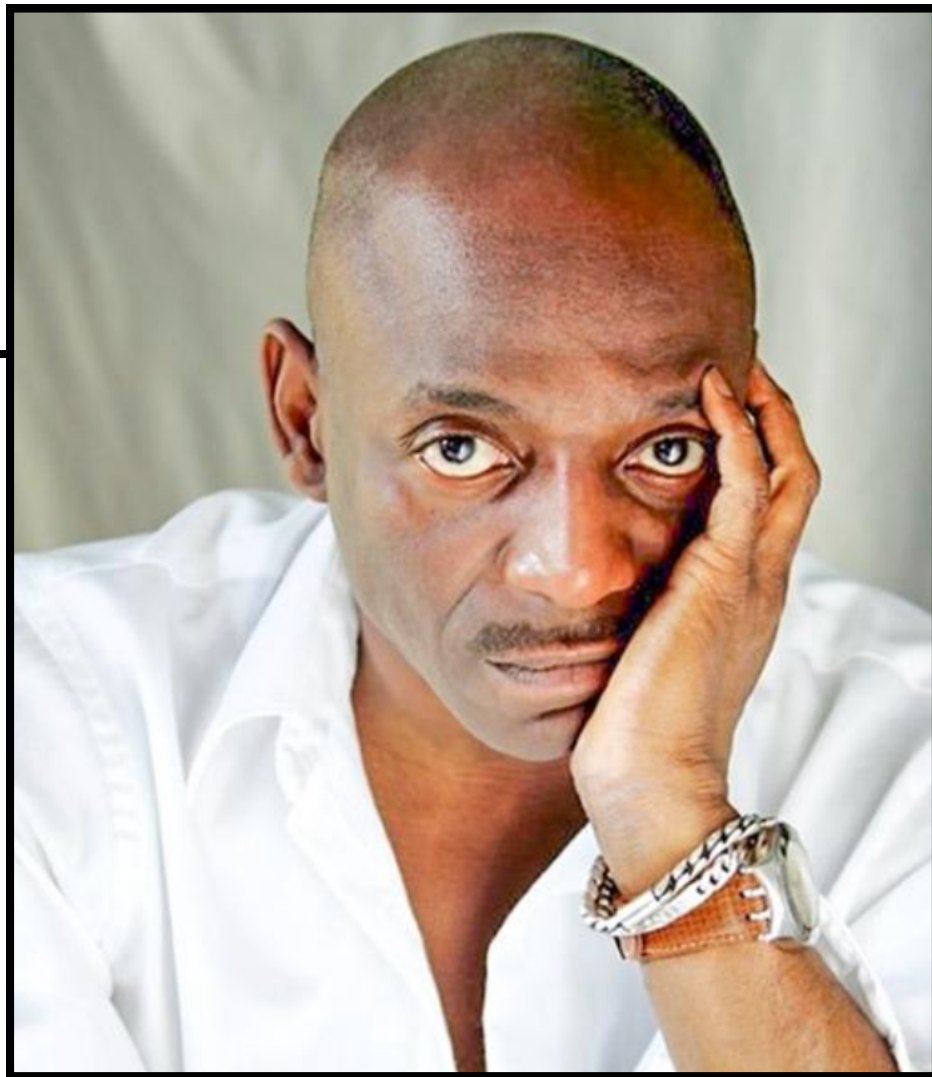


CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

HINTON GOVORN BATTLE • BABA WORINDE •

NOVEMBER 29, 1956 – JANUARY 30, 2024



SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH AT 3PM

DEBBIE ALLEN DANCE ACADEMY
1850 S. MANHATTAN PLACE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90010

OBITUARY

In Neubrucke, Germany, on November 29, 1956, a luminous spirit traversed the cosmos and entered the world as the son of Carrie C. Battle and her husband, SFC Hinton G. Battle of the US Army. They bestowed upon him the name Hinton Govorn Battle, Jr., and he emerged as one of the most extraordinary, revered, and cherished artists to ever grace the Broadway stage and the silver screen. Collaborating with some of the most influential director/choreographers of all time, including George Faison in the original production of "The Wiz," Bob Fosse in the original production of "Dancin'," and Michael Bennett in the Broadway production of "Dreamgirls," Hinton left an indelible mark on the world of performing arts.



He garnered three Tony Awards for three distinctly remarkable roles in – "Sophisticated Ladies," "Tap Dance Kid," and "Miss Saigon"—earning him the distinction of being the most decorated Featured Actor in a Musical in history. Hinton's innate talent for dance blossomed from a young age. He commenced his training at the renowned Jones Haywood School of Ballet in Washington DC, and after three years, secured a full scholarship at the School of American Ballet in New York under the tutelage of George Balanchine.

Hinton's ascent as a consummate triple-threat garnered him accolades such as NAACP Image Awards, the Fred Astaire Award, the Ira Aldridge Award, the Midtown International Theater Festival Award, the Big Kidz Foundation Champion of the Arts Award, The Planet Connection Award, and the AMAS 2014 Rosie Award for Lifetime Achievement.



As a masterful dancer, singer, actor, choreographer, writer, and director, Hinton seamlessly transitioned from stage to screen, leaving an indelible mark on projects ranging from "Buffy The Vampire Slayer" to "Sister, Sister," "Fired Up," "The Trouble With Norman," and "The Boys." His choreographic brilliance illuminated the Academy Awards and Golden Globe Awards, culminating in his mesmerizing work on the big screen for the OUTKAST-led movie "Idlewild." Notably, he portrayed a memorable character in the film "Dreamgirls," opposite Jamie Foxx.

In his final years, Hinton devoted himself to penning his autobiography and a children's book titled "My Huge Secret." Additionally, he felt deeply honored to be featured in The Microsoft Legacy Project Virtual Museum's "Black History Month 2022 Experience."

Yet, amidst his many accomplishments, Hinton's greatest joy was the establishment of the Hinton Battle Dance Academy (HBDA) in 2017, alongside his co-founder Yoshimoto Kogyo. Through HBDA, he mentored aspiring talents, guiding them toward successful careers in the entertainment industry and in life.



On January 29th, Hinton passed on to join God's Grand Ensemble, continuing his journey of inspiring creativity and dance in that eternal light. On March 12th, the Lights of All Broadway Theaters were dimmed in his honor.

Hinton is survived by his sisters, Eddie and Lettie Battle, and cherished in memory by a multitude of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He reunites with his mother, Carrie, father, Hinton, Sr. and brothers LaNard and Kirk, in eternal rest.

PROGRAM

Welcome · Debbie Allen

Opening Remarks · Leah Bass-Baylis

"Someday We'll All Be Free" by Donny Hathaway · Wilkie Ferguson

Reflection · Moka Umehara

"Good Goodbye" by Lianne La Havas · Danced by Hazuki Saitou

Video Introduction · Adia Larkin

Reflections · Julie McDonald, Shaun Baker

Video Tributes · Dule Hill, Ben Vereen

"The Man in the Moon" by Heny Krieger & Robert Lorick
Vocals Dawn Lewis, Music Wilkie Ferguson

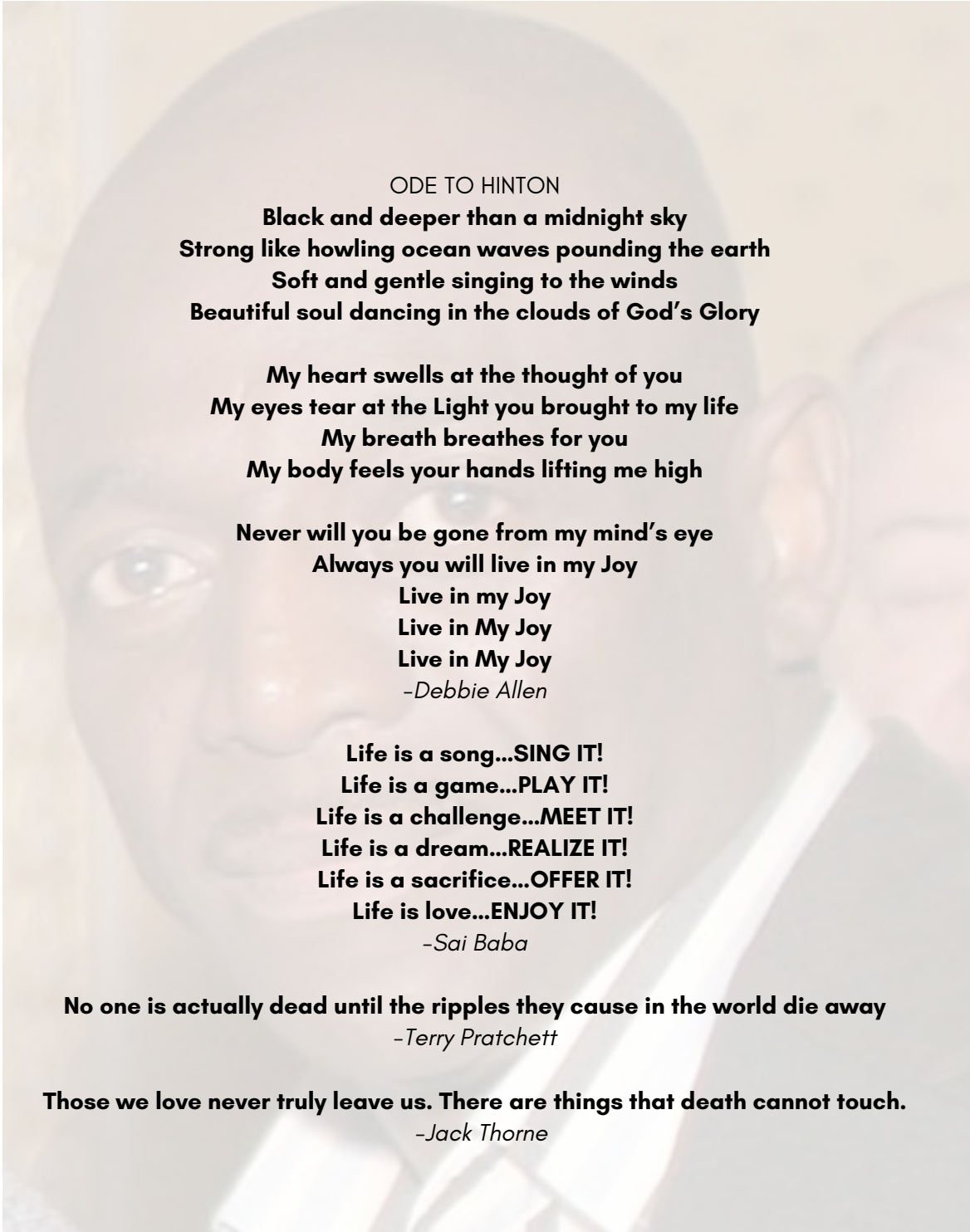
Family Remarks

"For All We Know" by Donny Hathaway
Choreography by Karen McDonald
Danced by DADA Men's Ensemble: Alaman Diadiou, Cameron Fikes,
Ryan Houston, Malichi Middleton, Brandon O'Neal, Michael Tomlin,
Shane Smith, Maximus Turner

Presentation · Debbie Allen

Recessional "Brand New Day" · DADA Rise Ensemble

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE DADA STAFF



ODE TO HINTON

**Black and deeper than a midnight sky
Strong like howling ocean waves pounding the earth
Soft and gentle singing to the winds
Beautiful soul dancing in the clouds of God's Glory**

**My heart swells at the thought of you
My eyes tear at the Light you brought to my life
My breath breathes for you
My body feels your hands lifting me high**

**Never will you be gone from my mind's eye
Always you will live in my Joy
Live in my Joy
Live in My Joy
Live in My Joy**
-Debbie Allen

**Life is a song...SING IT!
Life is a game...PLAY IT!
Life is a challenge...MEET IT!
Life is a dream...REALIZE IT!
Life is a sacrifice...OFFER IT!
Life is love...ENJOY IT!**
-Sai Baba

No one is actually dead until the ripples they cause in the world die away
-Terry Pratchett

Those we love never truly leave us. There are things that death cannot touch.
-Jack Thorne

The Battle family thanks each one of you for your assistance, sharing your thoughts, experiences, heartfelt stories, grace, and love for Hinton. We appreciate the time, kindness and friendship you had with him over the years. Thank you for the smiles, laughter and tears we share today as we celebrate his life.



HINTON BATTLE DAY OF DANCE JUNE 10TH

HINTON BATTLE
DAY OF DANCE

5 FREE CLASSES

- BALLET (10:00am)
- HORTON (11:45am)
- MEN'S HIP HOP/ JAZZ (1:30pm)
- FOSSE® (3:15pm)
- TAP (5:00pm)

LIVE PANEL TALK BACK AT 7PM
MONDAY • JUNE 10, 2024

OPEN JAR STUDIOS
1601 BROADWAY (11th FLOOR) NYC

SIGN UP TODAY
www.DAYOFDANCENY.com

SPACE IS LIMITED / ENROLLMENT DEADLINE - JUNE 1st

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LEAD PRESENTER: **BLACK BROADWAY MEN**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH: **PHILIPPO** and **LePape**

DESIGNED: @DEMTRISTRK

Tap Photo for More Information